

From: Crozer, William F. EOP/WHO [mailto:William.F.Crozer@who.eop.gov]
Sent: Saturday, November 17, 2018 11:04 AM
Subject: Invitation (10/20): Briefing Call on Prison and Sentencing Reform

Attorneys General,

The White House Office of Intergovernmental Affairs invites you to a briefing call on prison and sentencing reform. I have included registration instructions and pertinent background information below.

What: Administration Briefing Call on Prison and Sentencing Reform

When: Tuesday, November 20, 1:00PM EST

Call Registration: [Register Here](#) (**you must successfully register to receive dial-in instructions for the call**)

If you have any questions or issues registering for the call, please do not hesitate to reach out.

Sincerely,

William F. Crozer

Special Assistant to the President and Deputy Director

White House Office of Intergovernmental Affairs

President Trump Calls On Congress To Pass The First Step Act

"Our whole Nation benefits if former inmates are able to reenter society as productive, law-abiding citizens." – President Donald J. Trump

CALLING FOR BIPARTISAN ACTION: President Donald J. Trump is calling on Congress to take action and support the bipartisan prison reform legislation, the FIRST STEP Act.

- President Trump supports the FIRST STEP Act, which will help improve our Nation's criminal justice system.
- The FIRST STEP Act enjoys widespread support across the political spectrum.

- Many of the reforms included in this legislation passed the House in an overwhelming, bipartisan vote of 360–59 in May 2018.
- Republicans and Democrats in the Senate worked with the White House to craft a bipartisan sentencing reform compromise, which has been added to the legislation.
- So far, seven major police organizations, over 2,700 faith and evangelical leaders, and hundreds of conservative organizations and leaders support this legislation.

MAKING AMERICA SAFER AND FAIRER: The FIRST STEP Act will reform America’s prisons to make our communities safer and our justice system fairer.

- Nearly all incarcerated Americans will one day leave prison and the goal of this legislation is to make sure they do not return.
 - The FIRST STEP Act uses a targeted approach toward a specific population of Federal prisoners who will eventually be released.
- The FIRST STEP Act will promote prisoner participation in vocational training, educational coursework, or faith-based programs, and in turn help them successfully reenter society.
 - Prisoners will be able to earn credits that reduce the amount of time spent in prison.
 - As a result, prisoners will gain job skills, drug treatment, and education that prepare them to reenter American communities as productive members of society.
 - The legislation also seeks to place Federal inmates closer to their communities in order to facilitate family visitation.
- This is a true first step in creating a fairer justice system by reforming mandatory minimums, which have created racially discriminatory outcomes and increased overcrowding and costs.
 - The legislation reduces the enhanced penalties for certain non-violent repeat drug offenders and eliminates the three-strike mandatory life provision.
 - Certain nonviolent offenders will be able to petition courts for a review of their sentence, which can be reduced only after the judge reviews all circumstances, including public safety, criminal history, and the nature of the offense.

IMPROVING THE PRISON SYSTEM: Taking steps to better prepare inmates for reentry into our society and communities will help reduce recidivism.

- We can improve society for all by better equipping prisoners being released for successful reintegration into society.
- Today one-in-three American adults has some type of criminal record and more than two million Americans are in prisons, including 181,000 in Federal prison.
 - More than 95% of these prisoners will eventually leave prison and face the challenge of restarting and reintegrating their lives.
- Our prisons can do much more to prepare inmates for release, addressing the fact that roughly 77% of state inmates and 38% of federal inmates are rearrested within five years of release.

SUPPORT THE FIRST STEP ACT

The FIRST STEP Act enjoys widespread support, including major law enforcement organizations and thousands of faith leaders.

FAITH LEADERS

- **More than 2,200 faith leaders recently signed a letter in support of the FIRST STEP Act:** “This legislation will improve public safety by implementing the use of risk assessment, individualized prison program plans, and opportunities for supervised release. The sentencing reforms will restore more proportional sentencing enhancements and allow for greater judicial flexibility in certain cases. This legislation will allow men and women in our federal prisons to return home sooner and better prepared to give back to their families and communities at their highest potential.”

LAW ENFORCEMENT LEADERS

- **Fraternal Order of Police:** “The President and his team have been working hard on this issue since Inauguration Day... We are proud to announce that by working together with the Administration and leaders on Capitol Hill we have a bill that will make our streets and neighborhoods safer, our police will be better protected and improve the ability of our criminal justice system to effectively rehabilitate officers... We have been proud to be a partner in this effort with President Trump and are grateful for his leadership and for his constant and unwavering support for law enforcement.”
- **International Association of Chiefs of Police:** “On behalf of the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP), the world’s largest organization of law enforcement executives, I am writing on support of the FIRST STEP Act (S.2795/H.R. 5682). We applaud the bill sponsors and the Administration for working with the IACP and soliciting our feedback and for their commitment to ensure that the legislation achieves a proper balance of maintaining public safety while providing rehabilitation services and early release incentives to qualified federal prisoners.”
- **National District Attorneys Association:** “I write to support the revised First Step Act... As currently written, the revised First Step Act includes much needed prison reform provisions that will provide the Bureau of Prisons (BOP) with the guidance and resources to assist in lowering recidivism rates for low-risk prisoners... We appreciate your efforts, as well as the efforts of a bipartisan group of Members of Congress and staff, to ensure the American criminal justice system is continually improved upon and seen as a model for innovative and cutting-edge programming that we see in our own members’ offices every day.”
- **National Organization of Black Law Enforcement Executives:** “We applaud the White House and Congress for soliciting feedback from NOBLE and the law enforcement community in finalizing the content of this very important legislation. We feel the FIRST STEP Act strikes a balance between maintaining public safety while improving re-entry, rehabilitation, workforce training programs, and sentencing.”
- **Major County Sheriffs of America and Major Cities Chiefs Association:** “We are grateful that the White House has reached out to law enforcement leadership to examine and discuss criminal justice reform. We thank you for pledging your support for the men and women on the frontlines of law enforcement... We endorse the objectives of the First Step Act, and we commend the team that has worked tirelessly to reach this point... In

partnership with the White House, we seek to achieve a balance between incentives and incarceration that promotes public safety and gives victims the justice they deserve.”

- **Law Enforcement Leaders to Reduce Crime & Incarceration:** “...the FIRST STEP Act and sentencing reform will improve public safety. Americans trust us, as law enforcement officers, to both secure the safety of their communities and advise policymakers on how to advance that goal... We are grateful for your unwavering leadership in prioritizing public safety and the critical issues facing law enforcement.”